

The DX Bulletin

ISSUE 115 NOVEMBER 7, 1981

PROPAGATION: Nov 7, Low/Below Normal; Nov 8, High Normal; Nov 9, High/Above Normal; Nov 10, Below Normal; Nov 11, Low Normal; Nov 12, 13, High Normal; Nov 14, Above Normal; Nov 15, High Normal; Nov 16, Below Normal/Disturbed; Nov 17, 18, Below Normal; Nov 19, Low Normal; Nov 20, High Normal; Nov 21, Low Normal. TNX N4XX.

PLEASE NOTE: We are now mailing the Bulletin on Friday. Telephone information up to 1400Z Thursdays to make that week's issue. Subscribers in the 48 states should receive the Bulletin no later than Monday; others on Tuesday or Wednesday. We are presently receiving about the same number of complaints of late delivery as we did when mailing first class.

J5HTL (SM3RL) is active through Nov 12 and setting an example of how an operation should be conducted. He's on all bands, 80-10, primarily CW.

FB8WG appears almost daily on 14225 at 1600Z, with W7PHO and W7RQ, with lists taken starting about 1530Z. Always long path to all parts of the U.S. and Canada.

After 9U5WR, K4YT made a brief appearance from Rwanda as 9X5NH, with a weak signal. His schedule from there is: Malawi, 7Q7(LW) Nov 5-10, Zambia 9J Nov 12-17, Tanzania 5H Nov 18-23, Malagasy Rep 5R Nov 24-30, Mauritius 3B8 Dec 1-8, finishing up at the Seychelles until just before Christmas. QSL all to W2TK.

No word on the JA operation from Bangladesh earlier in October, but SM3OLK did appear signing S21GM for about five days.

Primarily because of an avalanche of adverse comments from amateurs (and the League) the FCC's proposed re-write of the amateur rules ("Plain Language") is dead. This is good, as the re-write would have further weakened the amateur regulations; they have already been gutted in the past few years and you can listen to the result on any 'phone band.

6 Meters exploded the weekend of Oct 31-Nov 1, with many amateurs working ZS6DN and ZS3E toward WAC. W1JR worked, on Nov 1, KL7NO, DK6JL, PA0RYS, 5B4AZ, and TF3SG. Cyprus completed Joe's WAC. Exactly one week earlier, VE1BNN reports working a half dozen ZL stations, around 1900 UTC. The Sun is very active these days, with some dates exhibiting excellent conditions and others being wipeouts.

W8EX, "Doc" Hildebrand, is active from the Bahamas as W8EX/C6A now to Nov 16, 80-10 Meters CW and SSB.

A request for permission to operate from San Felix by N4WF earlier this year was summarily turned down, with no explanation given. This sheds further light on why KF10's CE0X time was cut short after only 700 contacts. Another publication's report that KF10 "created RFI problems" to the island's commercial equipment is simply not true.

The dates for a Spanish group's operation from Albania are fast approaching: early December is the latest and greatest guess. No official word has been forthcoming, however, and TDXB letters of inquiry have been ignored.

The DK2OC gathering (28750, 1200Z) is back in full swing for the winter. This is one of the better-run net operations and features, from time to time, EP2TY, various Asiatic USSR prefixes, VK9NYG, etc.

TDXB Sticker Bank is doing a brisk business as Newington continues to run out of various transparent stickers. We filled eleven requests last week alone and still need 270,325, 330, 350, 360, 365, plus whatever else you have spare, especially around 300.

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VP8AEN S. Georgia still works lists only, latest schedule being 14210 at 2300Z to get on the list, with 'AEN showing on 14253 at 0945Z the next day. Various days of the week are indicated.

YASME NEWS: Lloyd and Iris pulled rank on Barbados to get 8P6QL, most U.S. amateurs having to use their own call-sign/8P6. 8P6QL made 9000 contacts in 150 countries, just two shy of their record 152 countries worked from J3ABV two years ago.

The Colvins operated from a hotel arranged for their use by Woody, 8P6CC, whom they had met on Barbados twenty five years ago. Lloyd fell through a weak spot in the roof during antenna erection, damaging only his reputation.

Next stop for the Colvins is 9Y4KG.

Anyone thinking of using a Heathkit remote coax switch will be interested in knowing that although the ad for same includes a listing for 150 feet of control cable, the unit as sent from Heath does not have enough poop to run the stepping motor in the remote unit when long runs of cable are used. A phone call to Heath instantly produces a higher current transformer. We discovered this after hours of frustrating effort trying to discover what we'd done wrong building the kit!

This is absolutely inexcusable...it is one thing to cut corners in a unit which will sit in your nice, warm operating room, but quite another to risk failure of a device a hundred feet in the air in the middle of January (when an electric motor is likely to seize). New England winter tower climbing should be a prerequisite for anyone designing rotors, antennas, and related equipment!

Correction: at the NEDXCC banquet a few weeks ago, add to the list of DX Quiz winners Mister Bob Beatty, W4VQ, who came in second among the Yankees.

The latest issue of Western Washington's DX Club newsletter, Totem Tabloid, sheds some light on why it is so difficult to gather information for a publication like this one...out of 600 members in the club, only six signed up for the annual awards banquet. As a result, the club cancelled the December event.

Following our announcement two weeks ago that the N. Cal DX Foundation is compiling a listing of DX club officers around the country, we have received two copies of club letters to the Foundation. That's probably how many letters the Foundation has received, too.

So...TDXB is making the Ultimate Sacrifice!!! We have ordered a 2 Meter FM radio and already have a Junior Boomer on the roof, in hopes of being able to hear any DX-related activity on the band. There is nothing we know of in the Hartford area, nor in Boston, but some in New York. Any CT locals interested in getting something going on 144 MHz please let us know.

Did you see the solicitation for General Manager of ARRL in the latest QST? Four applicants are on file at this time: Assistant General Manager Sumner, Board President Dannals, Fred Laun (K3ZO), and an unknown W2-type. The Board is reported waffling (they have had since last March to think on the matter) and it is very possible that an interim "management team" could be appointed following present GM Baldwin's retirement next June.

Also, ARRL has re-ballotted two of its divisions, Great Lakes and Pacific, as a result of foul-ups in elections for division directors there.

The P41C Curacao operation in the CQ WW Phone Contest two weeks ago is talking about a score over 40 Million, which would be a new multi transmitter record. QSLs to N4RV. A CW operation by K4BAI, W6OAT, KR4M, PJ9EE, and others, will sign P41E Nov 28/29, QSLs to K4BAI. A call ending in "E" for CW? Ugh!

BANDPASS: Call/Frequency/UTC (plus West, Central, East Coast report)/Date

A9XCE 21022 04E 27	J5HTL 28025 10E 3	UM8MBA 28018 04E 27	3X1Z 14197 04E 29
BV2A-14039 13C 28	AH2L 7004 12E 28	UK9OBG/	3X1Z 14221 00E 30
CN8MC 28534 17E 27	WD4JTK/	U8U 14021 05W 28	4Z4DX 3503 02E 29
CN2AQ 14040 04C 28	LX 28007 13C 27	VK9NYG 28519 13E 29	5H3TM 28535 20E 26
C5ADS 28518 11C 28	PA3AIR/LX 28531 15E 31	VK9NYG 28520 13E 31	WD5FTP/
EA9HU 28522 12C 28	OD5LX 7006 03E 29	VK9NYG 28523 15E 31	5N4 21289 20E 28
EP2TY 28728 16E 29	S21GM 14018 17W 28	VP8PO 21345 00E 26	OE5BS/
FH8CO 14025 14C 29	TA2KS 14298 03E 28	VS5DD 28550 01C 29	5N2 28518 22E 29
F08GM 28007 20E 27	TL8WH 14212 14C 27	VS6DO 7001 11E 3	5T5RR 28517 00E 27
HS1AMS 28574 01C 29	T32AB 14209 04E 29	VU2GI 28688 16E 27	5T5RR 14211 04E 30
HV3SJ 14202 00E 31	UK1PGO 14027 12E 28	VU2WTR 7006 12C 28	5T5RR 28520 14E 31
HZ1AB 14224 14C 27	UK9AAG 7007 01C 26	VU2KMK 7005 12C 30	5V7RW 14204 00E 29
HZ1AB 14225 13E 28	UF6FDR 7008 03C 29	VU2KMK 7004 13E 30	7Q7LW 28508 20E 26
JH2OHX/	UA1ZEX/	VU2GI 28190 15E 31	7X2LS 28620 19W 26
JD1 14044 13C 28	U5J 7017 04C 30	YB9ADE 3503 12E 30	7X2LS 28598 16E 29
JW6MY 21026 23E 28	UL7CAD 7002 12C 26	YJ8NMB 28544 21E 27	8Q7AV 28603 12E 28
JW6MY 14016 06W 28	UH8BAJ 28015 13E 30	3B8AS 14046 02E 28	9G1SD 21292 18E 30
JW5OD 21004 21E 29	UI8ADQ 14018 01E 27	3B8CD/7 14206 03E 29	9J2FC 28514 21C 26
J3AH 21285 16E 29	UI8ACG 21030 03C 27	3B8CD/7 14207 03E 30	9L1FC 14239 00C 27
J5HTL 21030 22E 30	UJ8JCT 28750 13E 28	8B8AE/9 14213 13C 26	9Q5L 28021 13E 27
J5HTL 21025 02E 1		3B8AE/9 14206 04E 29	9V1UR 21345 00C 27

REVISED W1/2/3: please mail reports by Monday. TDXB: 203-871-6251
 SCHEDULE All others: please mail reports by Sunday.

CT3 MADEIRA

by Bob Thompson, K6SSJ

A long planned CT3 Madeira DXpedition organized by Bob Thompson, K6SSJ, with much assistance and encouragement from Mariti, OH2BH, departed San Francisco October 18th with Ken Ruddock, K6HNZ, and Bill Zachman, W6TPH, all joint members of the Northern California DX & Contest Clubs. The purpose was to participate in the Annual CQ WW DX Phone Contest.

One day was lost in customs at Lisbon, Portugal and another at Funchal in Madeira due to lack of complete customs documents. Thanks to the valued assistance of the U. S. Embassy at Lisbon and the excellent help of Jaime Nunes, CT3AR, at Funchal the group finally cleared customs late Tuesday and checked into the DoMar Hotel. A roof mounted vertical left by OH2BH was pressed into service that night by W6TPH for some CW contacts on 20 and 40 meters.

The Trio left the following morning for final destination near Sao Jorge (St. George) on the North Coast. Although air line distance is only about 20 miles the trip takes 2 to 3 hours by car due to the winding, twisting mountainous roads that climb from sea level to several thousand feet and back many times. A truck rented and pressed into service to transport the tower, antennas and equipment to the Cabans where the group would operate. The operators were driven by Jaime, CT3AR.

Arriving shortly after noon on Thursday was followed by another minor complication. The owner had failed to notify the manager of our arrival. Again Jaime, CT3AR, came to the rescue by telephoning the owner and permission was granted to use the cabins which presently are not open to the public.

Some antennas were erected late Thursday and test operations conducted that night. In attempting to erect the 80/40 vertical in the dark it was dropped resulting in breaking the top loading coil. A splint applied next morning gave temporary relief and the antenna erected. Additional 80 & 40 meter wire dipoles (40 sloper) were erected. Most of this activity taking place in light to heavy rain.

A tired but keyed up trio spent a few hours on the air prior to contest time. During the contest, W6TPH, worked 10 Meters exclusively plus some 40/80 operations. K6HNZ, was exclusive on 21 MHz with some 40/80 operations, and K6SSJ was exclusive on 20 meters. Monoband 3 Element Yagi's were used on 10, 15, and 20 meters. Equipment consisted of two TS-830S's and a TS-520 with two Heathkit SB-220's and a Collins 30L1 Linear.

CALENDAR

YASME 9Y4KG on Now.
 Guinea-Bis. J5HTL Now to Nov 12 by SM3RL
 Bahamas W8EX/C6A Now to Nov 16
 Crozet FB8WG weekdays 1530Z, 14225
 Malawi By K4YT Now to Nov 10

Volta XT2 by W9GW Now to Nov 18
 Zambia By K4YT Nov 12-17
 Tanzania By K4YT Nov 18-23
 Bahamas C6A by K8MFO/W8DNC Nov 20-30
 Virgins By WB3s JRJ/CZK Nov 21-27

Martinique FM0GA by N6ZV Nov 23-Dec 1
 Malagasy By K4YT Nov 24-30
 Mauritius By K4YT Dec 1-8
 Seychelles By K4YT Dec 9-16
 Norfolk VK9 by DL1VU in Dec

Albania Still rumored for Dec

CONTRIBUTORS

K4BAI, KC9C, N4CID, AF5H, K0DEQ, W5ODD,
 WB6ZUC, N6JM, W8UVZ, KA3R, W4VQ, K6IR,
 W2HAZ, K5BLV, VE1BNN, WA7OBH, WB1EAZ,
 K5AAD, N1AKX, WA8CZS, N8BKB, W7YF, W1VV,
 W8GZX, WD5AAM, K3MRT, KA1KD, KP4EQF, K9KLR,
 N6VL, WB1FSW, KH6BZF, K7RDG, W2NC, KE1F,
 YASME, WB9QPG, K9FN, N4WF, W8EX, W1JR, N6CW,
 K3KA, WD9IIC, KC8CC, KB8RT.

LETTERS

To TDXB: I will not be renewing my subscription. There is "little DX info, mostly rumors, Bandpass, and articles such as 'More on Poland,' all of which do not help my country total." (name withheld).

The Editor Replies:

No problem. In answer to your question, point your beam North to work Europe.

PROPAGATION (Thanks KH6BZF)

DATE	FLUX (1980)	FLUX (1981)	ALPHA (1981)	K (1981)
10/13	257	244	9	3
10/14	252	277	50	5
10/15	238	289	25	4
10/16	216	305	9	2
10/17	203	305	13	3
10/18	202	305	4	1
10/19	204	281	16	3
10/20	202	267	41	6
10/21	206	240	22	3
10/22	209	221	33	5
10/23	198	210	20	2
10/24	195	203	15	4
10/25	189	188	23	3
10/26	185	174	12	3

In light of some of the recent DXpeditions and attempted DXpeditions and in light of recent operations with improper credentials and/or DXpeditions displaying poor operating practices, the National Capitol DX Association, at its October meeting, adopted the following policy concerning financial aid to future DXpeditions:

"Be it moved that the NCDXA does not contribute any financial aid to any DXpedition until after the DXpedition. Any requests to the NCDXA for financial aid should be followed up immediately by a letter explaining our (NCDXA) position. Upon completion of the DXpedition and if the DXpedition was conducted in a reasonable manner, requests for financial aid will be considered. Also, if adopted, this policy should be published in all of the DX bulletins and in the DX columns in QST, 73, and CQ."